

Playa Emissivity Estimation



March 14, 2006

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MacDougall Method

⌘ Categorize Exposed Playa

- ☐ Sand
- ☐ Clay
- ☐ Cemented

⌘ Define Land Type Reservoirs

⌘ Describe Wind Events

⌘ Incorporate Rain Event Effects

⌘ Incorporate Humidity Effects

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Next Steps

- ⌘ **One-year Meteorological Data Model Runs**
- ⌘ **Develop Appropriate Means of Handling Crust Effects**
- ⌘ **Refine Model Runs with DRI PI-SWERL Results**
- ⌘ **Final Model Runs for Analysis of Alternatives**

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One Year Meteorological Data

- ⌘ **Wind Field Analysis Was Limited Due to the Expanse of the Sea and Available Data**
- ⌘ **2002 Ten Meter Tower Data for Indio, Westmoreland and Niland was used**
- ⌘ **The Salton Sea Area was Divided by Location Between the Three Meteorological Data Sets**

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Owens Lake Wind Tunnel Study

⌘ Soils

- ☒ Dune Sand
- ☒ Sand
- ☒ Sand over Clay
- ☒ Clay
- ☒ Silty Clay
- ☒ Silty Clay Cemented

⌘ Tested With and Without Sand Feed

⌘ Surface Crusting Developed During Testing Period

⌘ Surface Crust was Factor Most Closely Associated with Emissions “Irrespective of Sub-soil Type”

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MacDougall Method Results Using Owens Lake Wind Tunnel Data

⌘ Only Niland Meteorological Data Had Wind Speeds Above The Thresholds

⌘ Soils without Cementing Resulted in Emissions of 174 tons/year

⌘ Soils with Cementing Resulted in Emissions of 7.35 tons/year

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⌘ Assume January Crusts Would Not Pass the Ball Drop Test

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Handling of Salt Crust

- ⌘ **Rain**
- ⌘ **Humidity / Temperatures**
- ⌘ **Crust Strength**
- ⌘ **Wind Threshold Velocities**
- ⌘ **Crust Model Incorporation into Emissions Models**

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Humidity/Temperature Effects

- ⌘ **Reviewing Humidity and Temperature Data During the Time Period the January PI-SWERL Testing Was Completed**
- ⌘ **Develop a Humidity and Temperature Profile Which Will Be an Indicator of When the Salton Sea Playa Will Not Pass the Ball Drop Test**

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Crust Strength

- ⌘ **Use the September PI-SWERL Results to Indicate Playa With Sufficient Crust Strength to Pass the Ball Drop Test**
- ⌘ **Use the January PI-SWERL Results to Indicate Playa Without Sufficient Crust Strength to Pass the Ball Drop Test**

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Threshold Wind Velocities

- ⌘ **PI-SWERL Data Does Not Result in Threshold Wind Velocities**
- ⌘ **Use the Imperial Valley Natural Events Action Plan as a Guideline for Wind Thresholds that Cause Excess Emissions**

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Crust Model Incorporation

- ⌘ **Use September and January PI-SWERL Data to Provide Emission Brackets**
- ⌘ **Use the Temperature and Humidity Data During the January Testing as an Indicator for the Occurrence Frequency of Emissive Playa Conditions**

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